L.P.G. Agencies in Punjab

50. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) which are the places in Punjab where new LPG agencies are being set up this year;

(b) whether the setting up of complaint grievance sells for better L.P.G. consumer protection is under consideration; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) While Letters of Intant to the selected candidates have been issued for the LPG distributorships established at Bhatinda, Nabha, Talwara, Barnala,Urmar Tanda and Mukerian advertisements to invite applications have been issued in respect of the distributorships proposed at Amritsar, Sultanpur, Jallandhar, Muktsar, Moga, Kartarpur, Jalalabad, Ahmedgarh, Budhlada, Nakodar, Phagwara, Malarkotla, Kharar, Zira, Fazilka, Majur, Phillaur, Jaito, Rajkot, Kapurthala and Khanna. In view of the various necessary steps which precede the commissoning of a distributorship and the time taken in finalising selections, it is not feasible to indicate as to when the different distributorships will be commissioned.

(b) and (c) Customer Service Cells to protect consumer interests have already been set up by the oil industry and are functioning at different Divisional Offices of the oil marketing companies. Complaints from customers received by these Cells are investgated and remedal action taken.

Lok Adalats

51. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Lok Adalats, statewise currently working in the country;

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to accord statutory sanction to the Lok Adalats and the legal aid programme; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): According to the information furnished by the Committee for Implementing Legal Aid Schemes:-

(a) Lok Adalats are not constituted to function as regular bodies. They are organised normally by the State Legal Aid and Advice Boards as voluntary agencies. As per the information available with CILAS the following are the statewise particulars if Lok Adalats:-

S.No.	State	No. of Lok Adalats Held
1	Andhra Pradesh	22 (Upto 31-12-1986)
2	Bihar	7 (Upto 25-5-1986)
3	Gujarat	133 (Upto 31-1-1987)
4	Haryana	41 (Upto 31-12-1986)
5	Karnataka	24 (Upto 18-1-1987)
6	Madhya Pradesh	14 (Upto 8-3-1987)

S.No.	State	No. of Lok Adalats Held
7	Maharashtra	335 (Upto 31-12-1986)
8	Orissa	7 (Upto 31-12-1986)
9	Rajasthan	152 (Upto 19-11-1986)
10	Tamil Nadu	1 (Upto 31-12-1986)
11	Uttar Pradesh	77 (Upto 31-12-1986)
12	Delhi	6 (Upto 31-12-1986)
13	Pondicherry	1 (Upto 31-8-1986)

(b) and (c) A proposal to accord statutory basis to Lok Adalats and the Legal Aid Programme is under consideration of Government.

Automobile tyre industry

52. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that automobile tyre industry is presently manipulating exorbitantly high prices of different type of tyres to earn excessive profits; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to intervene to keep the tyre prices spiral in check?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) Government have received reports that there has been an increase in the market selling price of automotive tyres though there have been no hike in the declared Net Dealers' Price by the Tyre Manufacturers since May, 1986.

(b) There is no statutory control on the prices/distribution of tyres at present. The Market selling prices of tyres are determined by demand and supply and other market forces. Government have been interacting with the industry in this regard.

Producion of Crude Oil

53. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of crude oil in the country during the year 1986-87 and the target for the year 1987-88;

(b) the estimated production of natural gas during the year 1986-87; and

(c) the details of the new areas where oil exploration work is going on and with what prospects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The total production of crude oil in the country during 1986-87 was 30.46 Million tonnes. The target for 1987-88 is also 30.46 million tonnes.

(b) About 9817 Million cubic meter (Provisional).

(c) New areas are:—

ONSHORE

—Himalayan foothills

—Ganga Valley

—Pranhita-Godavari basins

—Son-Damodar Valley

—Orissa